I claim:

1   1. A method for discovering a connectivity relationship among a plurality of external

2   connections to a two dimensional logic cell, the method comprising the steps of:

3   (a) for all contiguous sets of one or more of the external connections, applying a

4   voltage to each contiguous set and measuring a total current flow received by

5   the remainder of the external connections;

6   (b) examining a current flow measurement corresponding to a contiguous set of

7   the external connections;

8   (c) grouping the contiguous set of external connections if the measured current

9   flow falls below a threshold; and

10   (d) repeating steps (b)-(c) for different contiguous sets of external connections.

1   2. The method of claim 1 wherein each previously grouped set of external connections

2   is treated as a single external connection.

1   3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of using the connection groupings

2   to discover a logical relationship among the external connections.

1   4. The method of claim 3 wherein the connection groupings are used to generate an

2   ordered binary decision diagram (OBDD).

1   5. The method of claim 4 wherein the connection groupings comprise a set of variables

2   and orderings on those variables that are used to generate the OBDD.

1   6. The method of claim 1 wherein the current flow threshold is predetermined.

1   7. The method of claim 1 wherein the current flow threshold is dynamically determined.

1   8. The method of claim 1 wherein the logic cell is a nanocell.

1   9. The method of claim 8 wherein the nanocell is a regular polygon.

1   10. The method of claim 9 wherein the regular polygonal nanocell is further

2   characterized by one or more external connections on one or more sides of the

3   polygon.

1   11. The method of claim 9 wherein each side of the polygonal nanocell has at least one

2   external connection.

1   12. The method of claim 9 wherein the nanocell has at least 20 external connections.

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1   13. The method of claim 9 wherein the nanocell has at least 4 external connections.

1   14. The method of claim 9 wherein the nanocell includes an assembly of nanocells which
2   are of one or more planar geometries.

1   15. The method of claim 14 wherein discovery of connectivity relationships is at least
2   partially effected by or through neighboring nanocells.

1   16. A method for discovering a connectivity relationship among a plurality of external
2   connections to a two dimensional logic cell, the method comprising the steps of:
3   (a) applying a voltage to a contiguous set of one or more of the external
4   connections;

5   (b) measuring a total current flow received by the remainder of the external
6   connections;

7   (c) grouping the contiguous set of external connections if the measured current
8   flow falls below a threshold; and

9   (d) repeating steps (a) – (c) for different contiguous sets of external connections.

1   17. A method for programming a series of interconnected devices, wherein each device is
2   capable of assuming at least two stable states, the devices initially being in a first
3   state, the method comprising the step of:
4   applying a voltage pulse to an input to the devices, the voltage pulse having a
5   first polarity and a time duration sufficient to cause a number x of devices to
6   switch to a second state.

1   18. The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of applying a second voltage
2   pulse to the input, the second pulse having a second polarity and a duration sufficient
3   to cause a number y of devices to return to the first state, where y is less than x.

1   19. The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of applying subsequent voltage
2   pulses to the input, the subsequent voltage pulses having alternating polarity and
3   progressively shorter duration.

1   20. The method of claim 19 wherein the numbers x and y are predetermined.

1   21. The method of claim 19 wherein the numbers x and y are dynamically determined.

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22. The method of claim 17 wherein the interconnected devices are molecular switches having a characteristic negative differential resistance.

23. The method of claim 17 wherein the logic cell includes switching devices of different switching potentials.

24. The method of claim 17 further including the step of devices assuming a known state at some time subsequent to the application of the first pulse.

25. The method of claim 17 wherein the interconnected device are molecular switches within nanocells, and wherein logic cell programming is at least partially effected by or through neighboring nanocells.

26. A method for re-programming a series of interconnected devices, wherein each device is capable of assuming at least two stable states, the devices initially being in an operational state, the method comprising the step of:
applying a voltage pulse to an input to the devices, the voltage pulse having a first polarity and a time duration sufficient to cause a number x of devices to switch to a second state.

27. A method for programming a logic cell having a plurality of external connections interconnected by a plurality of switching devices, the method comprising the steps of:

    (a) discovering a logical relationship among the external connections to the logic cell;

    (b) programming the switchable devices to perform a logic function by using a series of voltage pulses having alternating polarity and progressively shorter duration;

    (c) testing the logic cell to determine if it performs the programmed logic function;

    (d) repeating steps (a)-(c) as necessary to ensure the logic cell performs the programmed logic function.

28. A method for programming a logic cell having a plurality of external connections interconnected by a plurality of switching devices, the method comprising the steps of:

4 (a) discovering a logical relationship among the external connections to the logic

5   cell;

6 (b) programming the switchable devices to perform a logic function by using a

7   series of voltage pulses having alternating polarity and progressively shorter

8   duration, where the sequence of duration, voltages and choice of inputs on

9   which to signal those sequences of voltages is chosen based on a logical

10   representation of connectivity within the logic cell;

11 (c) testing the logic cell to determine if it performs the programmed logic

12   function.

1 29. The method of claim 28 wherein the logic cell comprises one or more nanocells,

1 30. A method of re-programming, modifying or repairing a logic cell having a plurality

2 of external connections interconnected by a plurality of switching devices, the method

3 comprising the steps of:

4 (a) determining the operable function of the logic cell;

5 (b) re-programming the switchable devices to perform a selected logic function by

6 using a series of voltage pulses having alternating polarity and progressively

7 shorter duration;

8 (c) confirming operability of the programmed logic cell.

1 31. The method of claim 30 further characterized by performance of the steps after and

2 during such time as the logic cell has commenced an operational mode.

1 32. The method of claim 30 wherein the voltage pulses are selected so as to

2 preferentially influence a subset of the switching device types according to the

3 threshold potential of that subset

1. 33. A method of re-programming, modifying or repairing a logic cell, including the case

2 where such logic cell is a nanocell, such logic cell having a plurality of external

3 connections interconnected by a plurality of switching devices, the method

4 comprising the steps of:

5 (a) determining the operable function of the logic cell;

6 (b) re-programming the switchable devices to perform a selected logic function by

7 using a series of voltage pulses having alternating polarity and progressively

8 shorter duration, and where the sequence of duration, voltages and choice of

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9   inputs on which to signal those sequences of voltages is chosen based on a logical

10   representation of connectivity within the logic cell;

11   (c) confirming operability of the programmed logic cell.

1   34. The method of claim 33 further characterized by performance of the steps after and

2   during such time as the logic cell has commenced an operational mode.

1   35. The method of claim 33 wherein the voltage pulses are selected so as to

2   preferentially influence a subset of the switching device types according to the

3   threshold potential of that subset.

1   36. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim

1   37. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim 17.

1   38. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim 26.

1   39. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim 27.

1   40. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim 28.

1   41. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim 29

1   42. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim 30.

1   43. A device containing at least one logic cell programmed by the method of claim 33.